

Cranberry today

SPRING 2012

Cranberry's Public Investments Yield Huge Dividends

Even through the steepest national recession in decades, Cranberry's past ten years have witnessed a major economic surge. It has included thousands of new residents, new homes, new jobs, and new businesses coming into the community.

"We got over \$6 billion of economic impact for our community and region that wasn't there ten years ago. That's seriously huge."

Altogether, that growth amounts to roughly \$6 billion in new economic activity – money earned and spent locally – above and beyond the already high levels of economic activity which were previously going on in the Township. And, if the factors responsible for that surge hold true, they are expected to produce an even greater impact in the coming decade, according to the Chairman of Cranberry's Board of Supervisors, Bruce Mazzoni.

Mazzoni, a chemical engineer by training and former business executive, looks at the Township's balance sheet in much the same

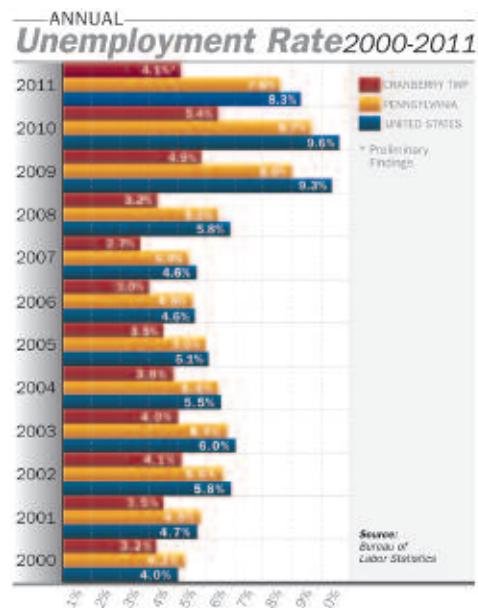
way he did for his former employers. And, just as in business, he is convinced that if you don't maintain and invest in the enterprise, it will slide into decay. There are plenty of examples to help make his point.

"A lot of other communities – I call them 'police and roads only' communities – are declining," Mazzoni said. "I was just visiting my aunt in the community where I grew up. They're a police and roads community. I don't think they've ever attracted a new employer except maybe a used car dealer with a trailer on the side. And their roads are in awful shape.

"Even worse, they pay more taxes than we do, yet they get only part-time police protection. They seem doomed, with almost no chance to attract new businesses. And, they're not unique; there are lots of communities like that," he said. "They make what they think are good 'political' decisions, but they're actually bad business decisions. They don't maintain, they don't invest, they don't plan, and that's what happens."

The Payoff

It works differently here. Over the past ten years, Cranberry collected around \$125 million in Township



Employment. For the last 10 years, Cranberry has had one of America's lowest unemployment rates. The Township expects another 7,500 jobs in the next 10 years.

taxes, which it invested in facilities and services. Add to that another \$25 million in borrowed funds raised through bond issues, for a total of \$150 million in taxpayer money – not counting the private funds spent on fee-based services like water, sewer and golf. And what did it get for that \$150 million?

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Cranberry's Public Investments Yield Huge Dividends *Continued from front cover*

"We got over \$6 billion of economic impact for our community and region that wasn't there ten years ago," Mazzoni pointed out. "That's seriously huge. And that's what our planning has done. That's why we hire the best people to get those kinds of returns for our community; that's why we're growing. And our growth helped Butler County become the only county in southwestern Pennsylvania that actually grew over the last ten years.

"These things don't just happen," he noted. "It comes from good business decisions made here years ago, as well as from decisions we make today. For example, our decision to make up for the shortfall in state road maintenance funds, making sure our library doesn't have to cut back more, seeing that our fire company remains in good shape – even our \$5 million investment in a new sewer main, which no one will ever see. These, along with our three parks, the golf course and the swimming pool, are some of the investments that encourage businesses and residents to call Cranberry home.

"And what will their impact be over the next ten years?" he asks. "We'll be putting in another \$30-40 million of assets and capital improvements during that time. That's why we floated a \$10 million bond in July. I expect employment here will grow by another 2-4,000 workers, along with new residents, and new construction. As a result of our planning and investments today, the next ten years will see an additional \$10-15 billion of economic benefit to Cranberry and the surrounding area – money that simply isn't there now."

Deferring Maintenance

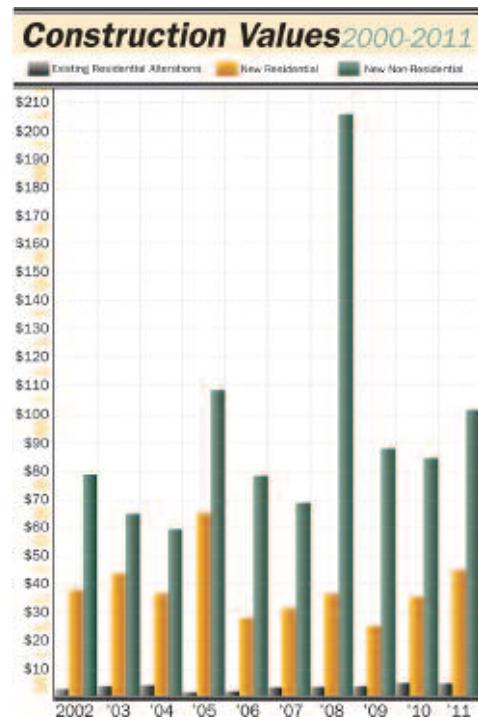
There is another side to the investment coin, however. Although good planning and sound investment

can help sustain economic growth, the failure to invest in the maintenance of public assets creates other liabilities – burdens which can only grow over time.

"If you're not reinvesting in the roads, if you're not reinvesting in quality of life assets like parks and public safety, if you have stormwater damage that you're not taking care of, it all adds up," he said. "Or, if you have an underfunded pension program like so many other municipalities and the state have, those are huge ticket items. Moody's catches them; they assign them a value in their overall evaluation. They know they're a liability. Yet Cranberry moved up in its overall credit rating. In fact, of all the municipalities in Pennsylvania with more than 2,500 people, only 15 have a better bond rating than Cranberry – and they all have much higher taxes than we do.

"Making conservative government decisions should not mean making bad business decisions," he said. "Take, for example, our decision to raise taxes for road maintenance. Pushing off maintenance is something you seldom see in business, otherwise that company won't be in business much longer. You can only get away with that for so long. But that's exactly what Pennsylvania is doing. We have more than 5,000 state bridges and 8,000 miles of state roads rated as structurally deficient and in desperate need of repair. The price tag for fixing them is ballooning. And PennDOT's borrowing from the Turnpike to fund its operating costs isn't sustainable either."

"Over the last few decades, according to the Commonwealth Foundation, Pennsylvania has ranked 49th in job growth, 48th in population growth, and 46th in personal income growth



Construction. Development, as measured by private investment in homes, institutions and commercial building projects, has remained strong over the past decade, despite a struggling national economy. Township leaders expect new development and re-development to continue over the next 10 years as well.

among the 50 states. But we're Number One in infrastructure falling apart," Mazzoni said. "No one in business would operate this way – only politicians do. My point is that

"The decisions we make here in Cranberry aren't political decisions, they're business decisions. And the growth we've seen here is the return we get on our investment."

the decisions we make here in Cranberry aren't political decisions, they're business decisions. And the growth we've seen here is the result; it's the return we get on our investment." ~



Cranberry, Inc.

by **Bruce Mazzoni**, Chairman, Cranberry Township Board of Supervisors

In business, success doesn't just happen; you need a plan to achieve it. It's really no

different in government. But can local governments realistically apply business principles to doing what they do? Actually, that's what we do in Cranberry, Inc. every day, and it's the reason behind our community's success.

What do we mean by success? And how can you measure it in government? It's done the same way as in business: ROI, Return on Investment. Using ROI as a yardstick for Cranberry is a way to see if our investments – our tax revenues and physical assets – are producing a solid return for our 'shareholders' – our residents and businesses. Take, for example, the investments those shareholders made with their Cranberry taxes since 2002. Over the past ten years – and excluding any user fees for services like water, sewer, trash, recreational programs and so on – those investments amounted to a combined total of \$125 million in taxes paid, plus another \$25 million borrowed through long-term municipal bonds.

And what did we get in return for that 10-year investment? Well, besides high levels of public safety, customer service, park upkeep, road maintenance, snow removal, and so on, Cranberry also saw the following returns on its investment over the past ten years:



1. Employment growth of 8,500 new jobs: \$2.2 billion in salary and wages
2. New homes and business development: \$1.3 billion in construction value
3. Over 4,500 new residents and \$1 billion in new income
4. Over 400 new businesses with \$2 billion in revenue

That's only part of the story. Those returns don't include our low unemployment rate, which is less than half the state and federal levels, nor do they include the appreciation of home and business values compared to 10 years ago. It's also important to realize that a portion of those bond proceeds helped to pay for Graham Park and the expansion of the police department – permanent assets that our community will have long after the bonds are repaid in another 12 or 13 years.

So let's calculate our ROI. Including the bonds, we invested \$150 million into Cranberry, Inc. over the last 10 years. We saw a combined return of \$6.5 billion in economic impact, as noted above. When you subtract that public investment, then divide the remaining \$6.35 billion by the \$150 million spent in bonds and

For every dollar in tax we pay, we generate an economic impact of \$4,233 for Cranberry and the region. That's one heck of a return!

taxes, it gives you an ROI of 4,233 percent. So for every dollar in tax we pay, we generate an economic impact

of \$4,233 for Cranberry and the region. That's one heck of a return!

How do we do it? By running Cranberry Township, Inc. like a business. It starts with hiring the best qualified personnel. But their mission is built on a foundation of good planning along with a vision of what makes a community healthy and successful.

The Cranberry Plan – our Township's comprehensive plan – is also our business plan. It maps out our approach through 2030 and it's posted on our website for you to review. Its goal is to keep this success going. It was a plan developed by hundreds of residents and business leaders over the course of 14 months. Its strategies are built around the idea that the continued success of a community is not solely the result of one or two things. Instead, it is an amalgam of many things including sign ordinances, streetscape planning, walking paths, traffic control, safety, parks, golf course, low taxes, and more – which combine to create an environment that makes Cranberry a highly desirable place to live and work, as well as an exceptionally attractive place for businesses to invest. Yet all of this is done with our residents paying less in local taxes today than they did 20 years ago, calculated constant dollars.

That's not just my opinion. Professionals like Moody's Investor Service, independent auditors, bond counsel, and PNC Capital all give Cranberry high marks. You may have missed the ground floor opportunity to invest in Apple stock in back 1980, but at least you own shares in Cranberry Township, Inc., and that turns out to have been a great investment. ~

Regional Learning Alliance Learns To Change With The Times

In just the seven years since the Regional Learning Alliance opened for business in Cranberry Woods, higher education has witnessed a sea change in student demographics, in the types of degree programs they're seeking, and in the ways they want that learning experience delivered.

So, for an organization like RLA, a multi-institution campus whose academic members offer courses driven by market demand rather than conventional academic syllabi, those shifts have led to a number of adjustments. However, to RLA Executive Director, Dr. Justin Griffith, they are changes which also bring new opportunities for the organization to deliver on its mission of lifelong learning and education.

Take its curriculum, for example. Four years ago, most of the courses offered by the 14 academic institutions which belonged to RLA at the time were aimed at high school graduates seeking a bachelor's degree. Today, almost 70 percent of its courses are offered at the graduate level and directed toward working adults who, in most cases, already have a Bachelor's degree and, in many instances, an advanced degree as well. What they're looking for are more specialized, advance-level degree and non-degree programs – frequently ones tied to careers which are already well underway.

Online instruction has exploded with some institutions offering online-only classes. It is a format which largely bypasses conventional college campuses.

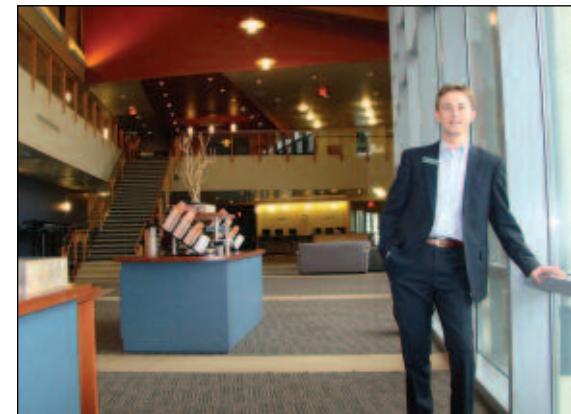
Then there's the delivery method. College classrooms, at the time RLA was conceived, were the primary

venue in which higher learning took place. Today, however, online instruction has exploded with some institutions offering online-only instruction, and many more offering 'blended' curricula, with some material provided online and some in person. It is a format which largely bypasses conventional college campuses – and it is growing in demand, particularly among working adults.

The result for RLA has been twofold. On the one hand, it has reduced the pressure on its classroom space and related parts of its facility – capacity constraints which had threatened to limit its mission as recently as 2008. By the same token, however, it has also given RLA the opportunity to expand its work as a business conference center and to give its now eleven academic member institutions an opportunity to expand their offerings.

The University of Pittsburgh, for example, started offering two new engineering Master degrees at RLA last year. Penn State will introduce its first-ever MBA program in western Pennsylvania this fall. Gannon University will expand its offerings to include a Master of Curriculum and Instruction, as well as primary and secondary teacher education options. Carlow University and Robert Morris University will be ramping up new programs as soon as this summer.

The brainchild of retired Slippery Rock University President Bob Smith, RLA's innovative model of a multi-institution learning facility is one which has now been carefully studied and, in several instances, replicated in other places. Today, RLA is entirely self-sufficient and is the only full-service nonprofit conference center in western



Virtual Learning. Regional Learning Alliance Executive Director Dr. Justin Griffith is guiding his organization's shared teaching and conference facility along a passage through changes in higher education, including the explosive growth of online instruction. The Cranberry Woods campus of RLA's state-of-the-art, LEED-certified facility, straddles the Allegheny-Butler county line.

Pennsylvania. It has built close ties with most of the major companies in the Cranberry area, many of whom also use the facility for their own off-site training, professional development, and meetings. And most of its bookings now come from repeat customers and by word of mouth.

But will online learning eventually force higher education organizations like the RLA to change their mission? Probably not. "Programs in healthcare, engineering and many other technical degrees need face-to-face learning; they need on-the-ground learning," Griffith explains. "Those are programs we have seen grow in this area and on this campus. Education is continuing to change and online education will continue to grow. But for us, it's not a negative at all; it allows us to think about how we can continue to serve our community. Like any institution, we are continually evolving. We will never change our mission; we're just evolving how we deliver that mission." ~

Cranberry Woods Business Park Is Very Choosy About Its Tenants

If it weren't for the astonishing short-sightedness of local leaders elsewhere in the area, Cranberry Woods – now the region's premier office park – would probably have been built somewhere else.

Mine Safety Appliances had already been around for decades when, in late 1970, the federal Occupational Safety and Health law was enacted. For the first time, it required industrial companies to buy safety equipment for their employees, and it gave a tremendous boost to MSA, which had, for most of its history, operated from a cluster of buildings in Wilkinsburg, producing and shipping personal protective equipment. So it built a new factory in Murrysville to handle the surge.

But by the late '70s, the company determined it would need yet another new location, this time for its emerging business in electronic sensors, detectors and imaging gear. And it found what it thought was a perfect spot in Allegheny County, near a Turnpike entrance.

The company's plans visualized a major investment in a modern factory and office complex where it would design and produce high-tech equipment with its highly-educated workforce, on what was, at the time, a completely undeveloped site. But local leaders saw it differently.

"They said: No way. We don't want any factories here. We want this to be woods, and we don't want you guys here," MSA's Chief Financial Officer, Dennis Zeitler recently recalled. So the company's search resumed, this time farther north. That was when they learned that a 327-acre Methodist church camp – the current site of Cranberry Woods – was available.

This was well before I-279 North to Pittsburgh had been built and long before the Turnpike/I-79 connector had come into being. Although business along Rt. 19 was already booming, 228 was still a tranquil, two-lane road. So MSA bought the land and, by 1985, completed its own complex of four connected buildings at the back of the property, screened from view by acres of woodland.

Then the company got approached by a big box retailer. It wanted 100 acres of MSA's property along 228 for a shopping center. The offer confirmed that the property had gained value, but that particular use didn't sit well with MSA. "I didn't want anyone coming up and saying: 'To find MSA, you go to Wal-Mart and make a right.' We didn't like that at all," Zeitler said. "So if this place is really valuable, what use would fit best with what MSA is trying to do here?"

The answer was to turn the company's surplus property into a first class office park. "No warehousing, no

"No warehousing, no industrial, no assembly, no server farms – just high-end office space."

industrial, no assembly, no server farms – just high-end office space," he said. "There are very few Class A office parks around Pittsburgh. Most are what they call 'flex parks.' They have warehouses with big trucks going through every day, and minimal office space. The purpose of this park is to generate high quality jobs, filled by great people, with ongoing education and a full-service hotel."



No Compromises. CFO Dennis Zeitler, a 35-year veteran of Mine Safety Appliances, completely understood his company's culture and was intimately involved in shaping MSA's Cranberry Woods Business Park development into the region's foremost Class A office park.

Eventually, MSA found a partner in Trammel Crow, a developer with the experience to create a park which matched the company's vision. And it was a vision enthusiastically shared by Cranberry Township's own staff and Board of Supervisors, whose support for the project has since been repeatedly validated by new companies and residents moving in.

Today, with twelve office structures, two hotels, the Regional Learning Alliance, and more than 7,000 employees in place, only three undeveloped parcels in the park remain. One is proposed for a high-end apartment community, another for more class A offices, and a third will become part of an expanded I-79 traffic interchange. All will be complete by 2014 – the centennial of MSA's founding.

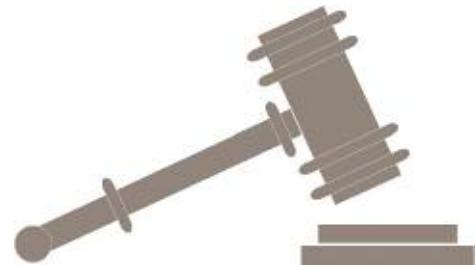
"We bought this property never knowing what a great location it was going to be; when we moved here, there was just a blinker on 19," Zeitler said. "But the professional nature of the people we deal with at Cranberry Township and the fact that they have the same vision as we do, really made it possible. There are lots of other townships where this would have never happened. In another two years, when these last few projects are done, we will have the best business park between Chicago and Philadelphia." ~

Bond Refinancing Saves Big Bucks



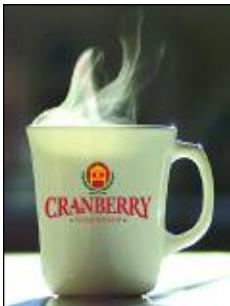
Taking advantage of the Township's high credit rating and low prevailing interest rates, Cranberry refinanced \$11 million in bonds in February for a savings of \$932,000. The original bonds, which were issued

in 2003 for the Public Safety expansion at the Municipal Center, and in 2008 for the development of Graham Park, carried interest rates of 4.25 percent and 3.8 percent, respectively. They will now be refinanced at 2.15 percent. The savings can be used to finance future capital projects and reduce future borrowing. In a conference call immediately preceding Board approval of the refinancing, Moody's Investor Service reaffirmed the Township's high Aa2 credit rating.



Zone Out With The Freedom 13

Thirteen Freedom Road residents have protested the Township's 2011 rezoning of their property with an overlay allowing for low-impact non-residential development instead of high-intensity commercial uses. That rezoning followed a lengthy process which is now being challenged in court. An application to reopen the issue was rejected by the Board of Supervisors in February.



Discover Park Place. Cranberry Township Manager Jerry Andree will be hosting a coffee and tour of the Park Place traditional neighborhood development community on Monday evening, May 14, from 7:00 until 8:30. Park Place, which is being developed by the Creative Real Estate Development Company, is the largest mixed use residential development in Cranberry and takes its name from Graham Park, which is contiguous to the eastern side of Park Place.

As part of the Manager's ongoing "Coffee and Conversation" series, the format of the event will be informal. Guests are encouraged to bring their questions and concerns. The event is free and no reservations are required, but for planning purposes, an RSVP to 724-776-4806 ext. 1103 would be appreciated. The coffee will be held in a model home near the Powell Road entrance to the plan; watch for signs.



Homebuying For Beginners

Buying a home is complicated. If you haven't done it before, it can also be intimidating. To help demystify the process, the Housing Authority of the County of Butler will be holding a Homebuyer Education Class in Cranberry's Municipal Center on Saturday, April 14, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, to help prospective buyers through the ins and outs of buying their own home. Space is limited, so advance registration is strongly suggested by calling 724-287-6797.



Keep A Lid On

Cranberry Public Library has installed a coffee-tea-hot chocolate vending machine next to the newspaper rack, right by the entrance. The price, \$1 per cup, includes a 35¢ contribution to the library. The machine will be on and available whenever the library is open, and patrons are welcome to take their coffee anywhere in the library – as long as they keep a lid on it.



Act like a grown-up.

You were mesmerized by fire engines as a kid. You followed the flashing lights and sirens as a teen. Now that you're grown up, what's next?

How about driving that fire engine and helping people in trouble? Or teaching fire safety to local residents? Or directing traffic around emergency locations? Or pre-planning the best approach to burning buildings? Or maintaining life-saving safety gear? Or scheduling training? Or managing fire company finances? Or being its news media liaison?

Keeping a fire department at the ready involves hundreds of essential tasks. It requires people with different backgrounds to do them. And they all learn new skills, too. Could that include you?

Cranberry Township's Volunteer Fire Company would love to meet you and find out. Drop by either station, any time. Stop in for a meeting. Kick our tires. Do something real. And act like the grownup you've become.



The Cranberry Township
Volunteer Fire Company

1629 Haine School Road and 20727 Route 19

Cranberry Township, PA 16066

724-776-1196

www.cvtc21.com

Don't Call 9-1-1 For Fun

But in Butler County, that's the number you call for any kind of service from police, fire, or EMS – it's not just for emergencies, as in most other locations. So, for example, if you see something suspicious in your neighborhood, or there's a raccoon in your garage, or you smell gas, or somebody fell and needs a help, call 9-1-1. They'll figure out the best response. You should only use the public safety agencies' administrative phone lines for information calls. There's a link to a YouTube video about using 9-1-1 in Butler County on the Township's home page.



Don't Pile In With Junior Drivers.



If you need a lift from a licensed driver between 16 and 18 in Pennsylvania, it helps to be a close relative. A new state statute limits drivers with junior licenses to carrying one unrelated passenger under 18 for the first six months, then to no more than three such passengers until the driver turns 18. Immediate family members are exempt. Those restrictions are waived if a parent or legal guardian rides along.



Grab A Seat. Cranberry Police, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Traffic Injury Prevention Project and Cranberry EMS, will be offering free inspections and expert instruction on properly anchoring child car seats, boosters and similar safety restraints on Saturday, May 5, between 10:00 AM and 1:30 PM. The program is available by appointment only. To reserve a time slot, call the Cranberry Police Department's reception desk at 724-776-5180, ext. 5, during normal business hours.

Buckle Up Or Pay Up



Drivers and passengers less than 18 years old can be stopped and issued citations if they're not buckled up. The new

Pennsylvania law makes failure to use seatbelts or child restraint systems a primary violation. So if a police officer sees that a driver or passenger is not properly restrained, they can pull their car over and issue a \$75 ticket – even if the vehicle is being operated safely.

Got Drugs?

Cranberry Township police, along with state and federal law enforcement agencies and local police departments around the country, will hold a collection for unused, unwanted and expired prescription drugs on Saturday, April 28 from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM behind the Municipal Center. This will be the fourth such collection held in Cranberry. Goals of the collection include protecting patients against medications which have degraded over time, keeping drugs out of the waterways used to supply drinking water, and to safely dispose of prescribed medications which are often stolen and sold as street drugs. No questions will be asked of those bringing in items for disposal, no identification is needed, and there is no charge for the disposal service.





Firefighter Profile: Ben and Brandon Ross Honor Their Father's Legacy

Stories about Charles Ross, the father of Cranberry firefighters Ben and Brandon Ross, are very much on the minds of his two sons these days. With a military service career behind him prior to taking a job as railroad supervisor, Charles had become a well-known and much-loved figure throughout his native town of Coraopolis. Although never a fireman himself, he was a regular at the firemen's association on nearby Neville Island, where he had also served as an elected township commissioner.

In 1983, however, Charles remarried, moved to Cranberry, and bought the house that Ben and Brandon still live in with their mother. Charles would have turned 80 this year but, following months in and out of hospitals, he ultimately succumbed to a long series of health issues last November. But he was extremely proud of his boys and insisted on saying so to every nurse and attendant he'd meet.

A few years earlier, before his father's disabling illness and while still a student in Seneca Valley high school, Ben's classmates included several other young and aspiring Cranberry firefighters. Their work with the fire service looked like an interesting activity. So one evening, toward the end of his senior year in 2006, Ben dropped into a Fire Company meeting to learn how he could join. That October, following the standard six-month probation, he was accepted as a full member of the brigade – the unit that responds to the scene of emergencies.

However a combination of required class sessions at Pittsburgh Technical

Institute, workplace commitments that conflicted with scheduled fire training, and the residual effects of his back injury from a quad accident in the woods, prompted Ben to re-evaluate his assignment. So last spring, he switched his role from the fire brigade to the fire police, a division whose training requirements he considered to be less time-consuming. This year he was elected as the unit's First Lieutenant.

All the while, Ben's younger brother Brandon had been looking up to his older sibling and admiring his fire company connection. So at age 16, Brandon enlisted as a Junior Firefighter and started the training which, when he turned 18 last summer, advanced him quickly into the ranks of the brigade.

It is an assignment he expects to continue holding at least through his first two years at Penn State's Beaver campus, where he is slated to begin a program in architectural engineering this August. After that, however, a leave of absence which suspends his normal fire company obligations, may become a necessity.

Even though their fire company work had become a major focus in the lives of both brothers, much of last year was overshadowed by their father's illness. Ben, who had studied architectural and civil drafting after high school, left his job at Costco to care for their dad during the final months of his life. After Charles passed away, Ben resumed work – this time with Advance Auto Parts on Rt. 19. His familiarity with



Family Business. Brandon and Ben Ross are blood brothers, but both consider the Cranberry Volunteer Fire Company to be their second family – one whose personal support, particularly in difficult times, became tremendously important in their lives.

vehicle parts became yet another legacy of his father.

After Charles became sick, the responsibility for restoring a 1986 Chevy pickup that he had proudly turned into a father-son project with his boys, became Ben's. "I decided to rip the old motor out and rebuild a new one for it," Ben recalled. "A couple of friends who knew more than I did gave me a hand with it."

"After dad passed away, we took the truck down to the funeral," Brandon added. "Ben drove it to the cemetery, in kind of a final tribute.

"Between 20 and 30 people came down from the fire company, in their dress uniforms. No matter what, these guys will be there for us."

We had between 20 and 30 people who came down from the fire company, in their dress uniforms. They're like a second family. I now know that no matter what, these guys will be there for us." ~

Township Seeks Fire Company Recruits

Keeping any volunteer fire company up to strength is a constant struggle. And Cranberry's is no exception. But this year, the Fire Company's recruitment and retention efforts are being armed with two new tools.

A 5,357 square foot classroom building in the Public Safety training area, behind Cranberry's Public Works Operations Center, will become part of the Township's Volunteer Fire Company recruitment arsenal by this fall. Its mission will be to bring as much as possible of the training required for fire company personnel closer to home and more convenient for its 60-plus volunteer members. The new building joins a four-story practice tower and vehicle burn pad

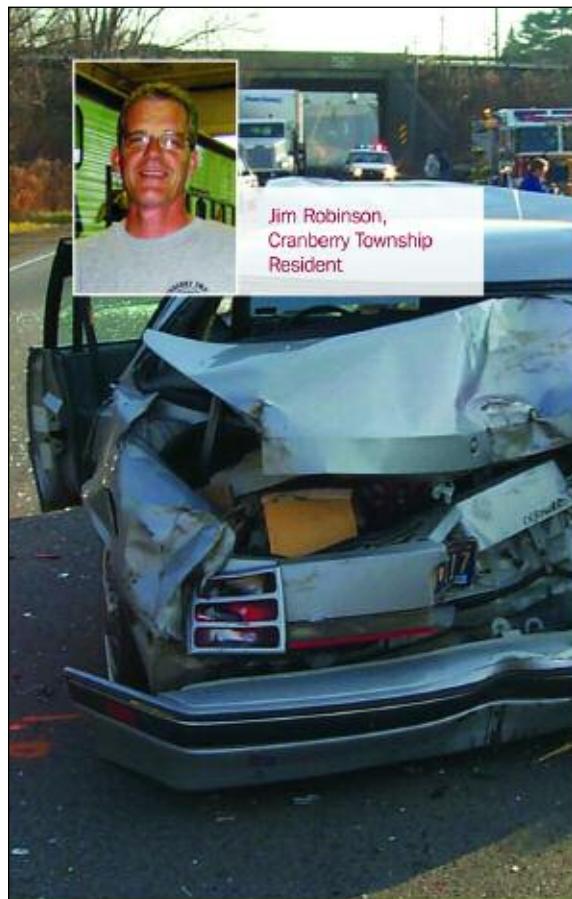
currently at the site which share the same mission.

To further support its recruitment efforts, the Fire Company is beginning an unprecedented media campaign designed to raise awareness of what its volunteers do, help those interested to find out more, and encourage people to join.

Cranberry's Volunteer Fire Company was formed more than 50 years ago, and a handful of its original members are still affiliated with the organization. In 1981, the Fire Company entered into an agreement with the Township government though which local taxpayers fund most of the Company's expenses, including its fire trucks and stations. That freed

its volunteer members to focus on training and responding to calls rather than on fundraising, as many other volunteer fire companies are obliged to do.

Fire Company members today include men and women ranging from Junior Firefighters as young as 16, to retirees well beyond 70 years of age. Their day jobs reflect the diversity of the community they serve, and new members are always welcome. To learn more, the fire company invites you to stop in at either the Rt. 19 Park station, by Community Park, its Haine School Road station near Freedom Square, or to go online to the fire company's website: www.ctvfc21.org. ~



They saved my life.

"Ten years ago, I got rear-ended by a school bus. I was stopped to make a left hand turn. I saw the driver coming and I could tell she wasn't looking; she was paying attention to her students. So I got crushed and pushed into oncoming traffic. Then I was hit head-on by a van going the other way.

"I don't remember everything, but I do recall lying on the side of the road, coming in and out of consciousness, and it seemed to me that the fire company was there in a heartbeat. I was rushed to the hospital with head injuries, and then spent a long time in rehab. But I've always been hugely grateful for the help I got when I really needed it. And later, after I got better, I joined the fire company out of gratitude.

"They really saved my life."

Every year, the men and women of the Cranberry Township Volunteer fire Company answer over 600 calls, from reassuring residents that their homes are safe to taking decisive action in life-threatening conditions. They do it all without hesitation, without complaint, and without pay. And they do it with the thanks of a grateful community.

If you'd like to part of something truly special, the members of Cranberry's Fire Company invite you to join them.



The Cranberry Township
Volunteer Fire Company

Cranberry Highlands: Let The Wedding Party Play Through

Cranberry resident Pat Troup is not a golfer. Until last year, she had never been to Cranberry Highlands. In fact, she didn't even know it existed. But as she and her fiancé, Greg Westhead, began planning their wedding, a local bakery shop clerk suggested she check it out.

It was the second marriage for both of them, each now with their own adult children, so Pat didn't want a traditional church wedding this time around. Instead, she and Greg wanted something which would be at once more intimate and more open. The stone Audubon Pavilion behind the Cranberry Highlands Clubhouse seemed ideal for a mid-June wedding and reception for their list of 85 guests.

Then the couple got lucky. Normally, summertime weekend events –

Weddings, showers, reunions, and other private parties are booked as much as year in advance, especially for Saturdays.

weddings, showers, reunions, and other private parties – are booked as much as year in advance, especially for Saturdays. But Friday, June 17 worked perfectly for the couple as well as for their guests, and she was able to reserve the Clubhouse banquet facility just six months ahead of her chosen date.

It came at a busy time for Cranberry Highlands. Pat and Greg's wedding was only the first of three which were held there that weekend. A Saturday

wedding received 132 guests. One on Sunday accommodated 58. A business association held a Friday golf outing for 50 members followed by a buffet dinner at 8:00. All the while, over that same three-day period, 680 rounds of golf played through, starting at 7:00 AM and continuing until dusk, before their exhausted players hit the clubhouse's "Off the Ninth" grill room and bar for a little post-game refreshment and fellowship.

However, after ten years of practice, the staff of part-time and seasonal workers at Cranberry Highlands, under the direction of golf operations supervisor Craig Walker, has learned to master a tough assignment: meeting the exacting needs of a diverse and demanding clientele over the long days and short nights of summer, every day of the week.

In 2002, when Cranberry Highlands first opened, three different catering companies offered service for its clubhouse events. But that quickly changed. By 2003, only one was left – J&J Catering – whose level of service far surpassed the others and consistently pleased clubhouse guests.

"We want our guests to treat this like their living room," Walker explained. "We're basically their wait staff. They're going to tell us what they want, and we're going to make that happen in a beautiful

setting. It's not where someone tells us they want to have an event here and we tell them what to do. "I call it my living room experience. If this was in your house, what would you want? That's how we start every conversation, and they tell me. Then we work out the event plan."

Cranberry Highlands' banquet rooms and outdoor spaces have enough flexibility to work well either dressed up or dressed down, depending on the occasion. "You can make it as casual or as formal as you want; it's all up to you," he said. "We're not a hotel or a fire hall. But we have the ability to be both; we're kind of in between."

With space for personal and business events ranging from 24 to 150 people, Cranberry Highlands positions itself as a competitively-priced venue for outings, meetings, and celebrations. An average wedding cost is just under \$50 a person and some are as low as \$32. "We can be very competitive for all types of receptions," Walker noted. "And that's fine with us because we go after people who want the ability to create their own receptions. That's why we get these great reviews – it's because we give them exactly what they want."

That's also how Pat Troup saw it. "It was very nice," she reflected. "If one of my children needs to get married, that's where we'd go again." ~



Twosome. Greg Westhead and Sandy Troup took their vows on a perfect day last summer in the Cranberry Highlands Audubon Pavilion. The Clubhouse, patio and open air Pavilion have become popular venues for all sorts of life cycle celebrations as well as for business golf outings.

Hit The Trail

The results of a broad-based, community-wide survey concerning Cranberry's recreational needs are in, and if it were an election, trails would win by a landslide. Sidewalks, bike trails, and other sorts of connected footpaths – whether for exercise or mobility – were identified by as many as two-thirds of the survey respondents as the top priority for additional recreational facilities in the Township. Picnic shelters, horseshoe courts, picnic shelters and playgrounds didn't even come close, and fewer than five percent asked for more football, baseball, or soccer fields. The



survey was conducted as part of a joint Butler County-Cranberry Township Recreation and Open Space Planning initiative and will be integrated into Cranberry's long-range comprehensive plan. A public presentation and meeting on the draft plan will be held at 6:30 on April 26 in conjunction with a meeting of the Board of Supervisors in Council Chambers.

Make A Splash This Year

Cranberry's Community Waterpark with its 15,000 square foot pool and related amenities, opens for the season on Saturday, May 26 and will remain open every day, weather permitting, through Labor Day, September 3. Discounted Waterpark memberships are available through April 30 for individuals, families, and seniors; Cranberry residents are eligible for even deeper discounts. Visit the Waterpark online at the Township website for details.

**Cranberry Township Community Chest****Scouts Honor**

In February, Cranberry Township Community Chest, CTCC, announced that donations had passed the \$100,000 mark toward a goal of \$140,000 to build its 2011 Project of the Year – a flagstone plaza at the edge of a new one-acre fishing lake in Graham Park commemorating the 100th anniversary of Scouting in America. That milestone was reached with a donation from Neva McClymonds in memory of her husband John, the former owner of Cranberry Supply Company, who passed away last year. Altogether, CTCC has received close to 100 donations toward the project, including one from Texas Governor Rick Perry, himself a former Eagle Scout. Donations of any amount are still welcome and recognition is available for gifts from \$25 to \$50,000.

2012 Community Days: Bigger Than Ever

still available for an event which will help more than 40 local nonprofit and civic groups build membership and raise awareness for their causes.

Last year CTCC Community Days enjoyed perfect weather and its attendance exceeded 25,000. This year promises to be even bigger including an expanded concert schedule, a full carnival, three days of children's activities, and an Arts Festival area highlighting local artists at three different locations. Also new for 2012: a Fire Company Golf Outing. Limited booth space is



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APR

Registration may be required for some programs. For more information, call:

• Cranberry Library 724-776-9100
 • Cranberry Customer Service 724-776-4806
 † Parks and Recreation 724-776-4806 ext. 1129

• Cranberry EMS 724-776-4480
 • ECS&R 1-866-815-0016
 † Butler Housing Authority 1-800-433-6327

SUN 1	MON 2 Reminder Yard Waste Collection Resumes Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Council Chambers, 6pm First Edition Book Discussion Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	TUES 3 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	WED 4 Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Family Pajama Time Library, 6:30pm Chapter Book Club Grades 1-3, Library, 7pm	THURS 5 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm Board of Supervisors Mtg Council Chambers, 6:30pm
FRI 6 Good Friday Passover begins at sundown Twp Offices, Library Closed Cranberry Highlands Tent Sale Golf Course Clubhouse, 8am-7pm	SAT 7 Cranberry Highlands Tent Sale Golf Course Clubhouse, 8am-7pm	SUN 8 EASTER	MON 9 Young Adult Book Club • Library, 4-5pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	TUES 10 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm
WED 11 Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Family Pajama Time Library, 6:30pm Chapter Book Club Grades 1-3, Library, 7pm	THURS 12 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm	FRI 13	SAT 14 Passover ends at sundown Household Hazardous Waste Collection ↗ by Appt, ECS&R Computer Class: Excel I • Library, 9am Homebuyer Education Class Municipal Ctr, 9am-3pm, Register at 724-287-6797	SUN 15
MON 16 Zoning Hearing Board Mtg (as needed) Municipal Ctr, 7:30pm Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Library, 4-5pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	TUES 17 Tax Day 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	WED 18	Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Books & Bagels Discussion Library, 10am UPMC Wellness Series: Weight Management and Safe Weight Loss for Seniors, Municipal Ctr, Sr/Teen Ctr, 12:30pm Family Pajama Time Library, 6:30pm Chapter Book Club Grades 1-3, Library, 7pm	
THURS 19 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm	FRI 20 Meet the Author of Stop Snoring Bernard, Library, 11am	SAT 21	Sheriff's Office: Gun Licensing Council Chambers, 8am-4pm Computer Class: Excel II • Library, 9am Learn CPR • Cranberry EMS, 9am-12pm Electronics Recycling Public Works, 10am-2pm 80's/90's Movie Night Library, 7-11pm	SUN 22 Earth Day
MON 23 Teen Book Club • Library, 4-5pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	TUES 24 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	WED 25	Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Family Pajama Time Library, 6:30pm Chapter Book Club Grades 1-3, Library, 7pm	THURS 26 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm Board of Supervisors Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6:30pm
FRI 27 Learn To Dance – West Coast Swing, Municipal Ctr, Gymnasium, 7-11pm	SAT 28 Computer Class: Computer Security • Library, 9am National Drug Take-Back Day Municipal Ctr, 10am-2pm	SUN 29	MON 30 Real Estate Tax Discount Ends Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Library, 4-5pm 20s & 30s Book Group Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	

MAY

Registration may be required for some programs. For more information, call:

- Cranberry Library 724-776-9100
- Cranberry Customer Service 724-776-4806
- † Parks and Recreation 724-776-4806 ext. 1129

- Cranberry Highlands 724-776-7372
- ECS&R 1-866-815-0016
- † Butler Housing Authority 1-800-433-6327

TUES 1 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	WED 2 Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm Family Pajama Time Library, 6:30pm	THURS 3 4 & 5 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am or 1pm Board of Supervisors Mtg Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8-10pm	FRI 4		
SAT 5 Computer Class: Facebook • Library, 9am Child Car Seat Inspection Community Park Fire Station, Rt 19, 10am-1:30pm	SUN 6	MON 7 Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Library, 4-5pm Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Council Chambers, 6pm First Edition Book Discussion Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	TUES 8 Infant Family Time • Library, 11am or 1pm AGH Sportszone Presentation Concussions, Council Chambers, 7-8:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm		
WED 9 Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm 2 & 3 Year Old Storytime Library, 7pm	THURS 10 2 & 3 Year Old Storytime Library, 11am Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8-10pm	FRI 11 Butler County Commissioners Meet & Greet Council Chambers, 8-10am	SAT 12		
SUN 13 Mother's Day	MON 14 Manager's Coffee Park Place, 7-8:30am Teen Book Club • Library, 4-5pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	TUES 15 Infant Family Time • Library, 11am or 1pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	WED 16 Books & Bagels Discussion Library, 10am UPMC Wellness Series: Speech & Language Therapy after Stroke, Municipal Ctr, Sr/Teen Ctr, 12:30pm Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm 2 & 3 Year Old Storytime Library, 7pm		
THURS 17 2 & 3 Year Old Storytime • Library, 11am Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8-10pm	FRI 18 Silent Rave Library, 7-9pm	SAT 19 Household Hazardous Waste Collection ↗ by Appt, ECS&R	SUN 20	MON 21 Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Library, 4-5pm Zoning Hearing Board Mtg (as needed) Municipal Ctr, 7:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	
TUES 22 Infant Family Time • Library, 11am or 1pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	WED 23 Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm 2 & 3 Year Old Storytime Library, 7pm	THURS 24 2 & 3 Year Old Storytime Library, 11am Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8-10pm	FRI 25	SAT 26 Cranberry Waterpark Opens	SUN 27
MON 28 MEMORIAL DAY Twp Offices, Parks & Recreation, and Library Closed No Waste Collection	TUES 29 Waste Collection delayed by one day thru 6/2 Infant Family Time • Library, 11am or 1pm Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Council Chambers, 5:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8-10pm	WED 30 Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30-4:30pm 2 & 3 Year Old Storytime Library, 7pm	THURS 31 2 & 3 Year Old Storytime Library, 11am Board of Supervisors Mtg Council Chambers, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8-10pm		

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE

Registration may be required for some programs. For more information, call:

• Cranberry Library 724-776-9100

• Cranberry Customer Service 724-776-4806

† Parks and Recreation 724-776-4806 ext. 1129

• Cranberry Highlands 724-776-7372

• ECS&R 1-866-815-0016

† Butler Housing Authority 1-800-433-6327

FRI 1	SAT 2	SUN 3	MON 4	Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Council Chambers, 6pm First Edition Book Discussion Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8–10pm	TUES 5	Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8–10pm	WED 6	Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30–4:30pm
THURS 7	Board of Supervisors Mtg Council Chambers, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8–10pm	FRI 8	SAT 9	Household Hazardous Waste Collection ↗ by Appt, ECS&R	SUN 10	MON 11	Teen Book Club • Library, 4–5pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8–10pm	
TUES 12	Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8–10pm Totally Tubular Tuesdays Night Swim Waterpark, 9pm	WED 13		Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30–4:30pm	THURS 14	Flag Day Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8–10pm	FRI 15	Farmers' Market Municipal Ctr, 3:30–6pm
SAT 16	Farmers' Market Rt 19 Firestation parking lot, 10am–1pm	SUN 17		Father's Day Father's Day Night Swim • Waterpark, 9–11pm	MON 18	Summer Reading Program Begins <i>Dream Big – Read</i> Pittsburgh Glass Center Mobile Flame Demo Library, TBA Zoning Hearing Board Mtg (if needed) Municipal Ctr, Council Chambers, 7:30pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8–10pm		
TUES 19	Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8–10pm Totally Tubular Tuesdays Night Swim Waterpark, 9pm	WED 20		Books & Bagels Discussion Library, 10am UPMC Wellness Series <i>Pacemaker & Defibulator</i> Senior/Teen Ctr, 12:30pm Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30–4:30pm	THURS 21	Summer Begins Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8–10pm	FRI 22	Farmers' Market Municipal Ctr, 3:30–6pm
SAT 23	Farmers' Market Rt 19 Firestation parking lot, 10am–1pm	SUN 24	MON 25	Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Summer Party Library, 4–5pm Planning Advisory Commission Mtg Council Chambers, 5:30pm 20s & 30s Book Group Library, 7pm Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8–10pm	TUES 26	Open Gym Basketball (18+), 8–10pm Totally Tubular Tuesdays Night Swim Waterpark, 9pm		
WED 27	Housing Counseling † Library by Appt, 2:30–4:30pm Bill Pate Family Music Program Library, 6:30pm	THURS 28		Board of Supervisors Mtg Council Chambers, 6:30pm Open Gym Basketball (30+), 8–10pm	FRI 29	Farmers' Market Municipal Ctr, 3:30–6pm Firecracker Family Night Swim Waterpark, 9–11pm	SAT 30	Real Estate Tax Due Farmers' Market Rt 19 Firestation parking lot, 10am–1pm

Three Big Projects Ready To Boogie, At Last

Three high-value Township projects, in the works for years, are finally ready to begin construction



Interceptor One. This new pipeline will be the largest in the Township's 160-mile sanitary sewer system. Running parallel to the current main collector line and following the course of Brush Creek, the new Interceptor One will provide sufficient sewage handling capacity to serve a community of 50,000 residents – Cranberry's projected population by 2030. During the past year, rights of way to build the new line were acquired, state environmental permits were secured, and funds

to build the \$5 million-plus pipeline backbone were raised through a bond issue. Construction will begin at the Brush Creek plant along Powell Road and extend south to the Allegheny-Butler county line. Portions of the line will be available for use later this year; completion of the full line is expected in 2013.

Public Safety Classroom Building.

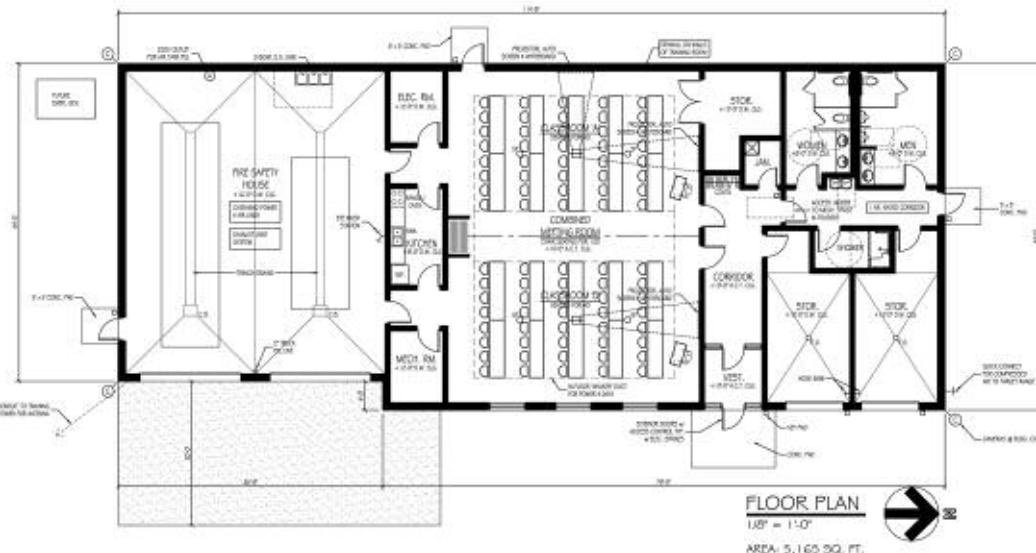
A new single-story 5,357 square foot building near the fire training tower behind Cranberry's Public Works Operations Center, will provide a state-of-the-art instructional facility for as many as 120 emergency workers at a time. In addition to a classroom which can be partitioned into two smaller rooms, the building includes two garage bays, a kitchen, and separate storage compartments for police and fire company use. In the planning stage for close to ten years, the new building will also have

the capability to serve as a backup Emergency Operations Center. The \$900,000 structure, which will be made available for use by neighboring fire companies and the Butler County Fire School upon request, is expected to be completed by this fall.



Heights Drive Extension. This new 2,100-foot stretch of roadway will link Heights Drive, in the Cranberry Heights plan of homes, to Rt. 19 near the Kenny Ross auto dealership.

Building it will cost something over \$1.5 million, require moving approximately 30,000 cubic yards of dirt, the construction of a number of storm sewers, and grading along its northern side to allow for the eventual addition of sidewalks. When completed this fall, the new connector road will provide an alternative to Rt. 19 for local traffic and become part of the parallel road network that the Township has been steadily implementing along its busiest corridors. A number of traffic-calming features, including a series of planter islands within the current roadway, will be added to help mitigate residents' concerns over speeding thru traffic. ~



It's working!

Regional Agency Confirms That Optimized Signals On Rt. 228 Save Time, Fuel, Money

You may not be able to judge the results for yourself every day, but all the traffic tweaking, timing and technology changes introduced along Rt. 228 in the Cranberry area during the past year are paying off, according to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, SPC. The aggregate savings amount to more than \$15 million, a recent account from the regional agency reported.

A series of improvements, including the 2009 construction of an I-79 exit ramp slip lane, an updated signal timing plan, new turn sequences, and state-of-the-art software to coordinate traffic lights at 21 separate intersections along a 5.5 mile stretch of Rt. 228, have decreased travel times an average of 11 percent by reducing signal delays and cutting stops along the corridor 23 percent.

The Traffic Operations Center inside Cranberry Township's Public Works building, which opened in 2010, houses the electronics and video monitors at the heart of the new signal management system. From there, traffic lights on Freedom Road, Route 19 and Route 228 in Cranberry are coordinated with others along those same roads in adjacent Marshall, Seven Fields, and Adams Township – all of whom were partners, along with PennDOT and the Federal Highway Administration, in the SPC-funded initiative.

A major impetus for the project came from the shared recognition that state and federal funds for continuing to add lanes as a way of accommodating



Federal funds to add lanes had largely dried up. A primary goal for the project was to find ways of using existing roads more efficiently.

traffic growth, had largely dried up. As a result, a primary goal for the optimization project was to find ways of using existing roads more efficiently. New data-driven signal control technologies, combined with partnerships between neighboring governments and regional agencies like SPC, promise to increase the effective capacity of the area's current highway network.

Highlights of the SPC report included calculations of nearly half a million fewer vehicle hours of travel, nearly two million fewer gallons of fuel consumed, 112,000 fewer pounds of pollutants emitted, and nearly 14 million fewer stops. Rush hour travel times for traffic making the 5.5 mile trip from Freedom Road at Powell Road in Cranberry to Rt. 228 at Heritage Creek Drive in Adams Township, saw a decrease of nearly five minutes. On an average weekday, 42,500 vehicles travel Rt. 228. ~



Township Jump-Starts Road Resurfacing Campaign

Relatively mild weather has allowed Cranberry's Public Works department to focus early on its 2012 paving schedule. The list of local streets slated for resurfacing this year, totaling 17 lane-miles of roadway, is still subject to revision, just in case some concealed damage is found after the end of the final freeze-thaw cycle. But most of the candidate roads for resurfacing had been identified all the way back in November, as part of the Township's comprehensive 12-year maintenance cycle.

"Over the last two years, our plan has been to develop that list of roads early and get the bid document out so that we're ready to go by the middle of March," Public Works Director Jason Dailey explained. "We've been fortunate to have a relatively mild winter. That's given us

Winter weather can have a dramatic effect on roads. The absence of extended periods of deep cold this past winter has been helpful.

a good handle on the road conditions. Winter weather can have a dramatic effect on roads. The absence of extended periods of deep cold this past winter has been helpful."

In February, Cranberry's Board of Supervisors approved a paving

contract for \$829,680 with Youngblood Paving, the same company which did the Township's road resurfacing work last year.

"There are two reasons for getting locked in this early," Dailey said. "One is that we won't have to rely on whatever the price of oil does in the coming months. The other is that it gives us some certainty about the preparation that needs to be done in advance of the work."

As far back as last summer, Public Works had already begun some of the catch basin repairs needed along the affected roads. Their early start provided an opportunity to concentrate on those storm sewers requiring more extensive reconstruction work, leaving Youngblood, as part of their contract, to focus on the lighter, shallower catch basin work before paving actually begins.

For decades, local road resurfacing had been financed out of state gasoline tax, allocated according to a complex formula. Over the years, however, the cost of resurfacing grew far faster than the so-called Liquid Fuels revenues. As a result, between 2006 and last year, Cranberry would spend its entire Liquid Fuels allocation, and then dig into its reserve funds to finance road resurfacing.

"That option has essentially been wiped out," Assistant Township Manager Duane McKee observed.

"So, realizing that we couldn't keep dipping into the fund balance every year, the Board created a new revenue stream, a 0.85 mil real estate tax, that goes directly toward resurfacing. It will raise about \$450,000 and we'll get another \$580,000 in Liquid Fuels revenue from PennDOT. We add them together, and that's what we'll have to work with."

Last year, a new trailer-mounted pavement crack sealing machine, which is shared among 14 members of the Butler County Council of Governments, promised to allow the intervals between resurfacing cycles to be extended. It seemed to work well. "So this year, we're doubling the amount of time and materials we're devoting to crack sealing compared to 2011," Dailey said.

But the Township's crack-sealing efforts are not targeting roads nearing the end of their surface life. Instead, Public Works crews have gone back to roads that were resurfaced three and four years ago, where minor cracks are just now beginning to show, and started sealing those cracks. "We're going where sealing will extend the life of that roadway, rather than to very old roads that may need additional work," he said. "It's a mid-range treatment. Our expectation is that we'll extend the road's life three to five years when we crack seal it." ~



Candidate roads for repaving in 2012 include portions of:

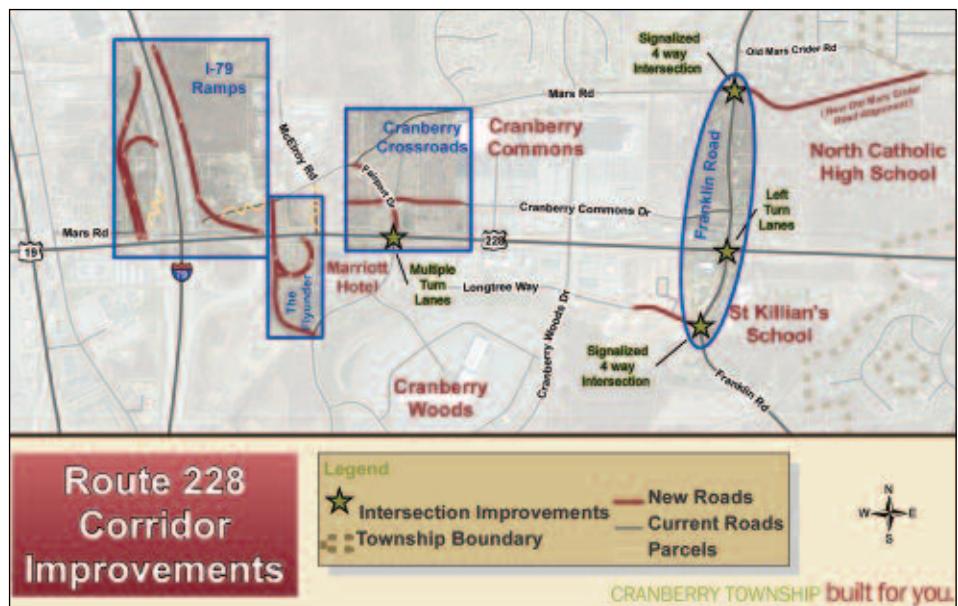
Commonwealth Drive	Valley Forge Drive
Hazelwood Drive	Green Fields Court
Settlers Village Circle	Reedmoor Lane
Cottingham Circle	Vandivort Drive
Heritage Place	Greenwood Drive
Unionville Road	Rustic Ridge Drive
Cranberry Square Drive	Wolfe Run Road
Monmouth Drive	

New Enhancements Underway Along Cranberry's Innovation Corridor

The methodical transition of Rt. 228 from a rural road into Cranberry's most intensively developed enterprise corridor will continue according to plan this year. Several public-private partnerships will initiate a number of new project phases designed to enhance safety, ease traffic flow, and sustain economic development. Here's a roundup:

Franklin Road. Northbound traffic along Franklin Road at its intersection with Rt. 228 will soon have an official left turn lane, mirroring the road's pattern on the opposite side of the highway. That will enable the traffic light there to be reprogrammed to signal dedicated left turns onto 228 for Franklin Road travelers going both directions. The proposed Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic High School, which is building its new campus on the northeast corner of that intersection, will have its own access point on Franklin, further north of its intersection with 228. The school project would also realign Old Mars-Crider Road with the existing intersection of Mars Road and Franklin to create a new signalized four-way intersection. That realignment is currently under discussion with officials of Seven Fields. Also as part of the Cardinal Wuerl project, proposed road improvements to increase Franklin's capacity for school traffic are being evaluated by PennDOT. Separately, and just to the south of 228 on Franklin, a new signalized intersection at Longtree Way and St. Kilian's School opened in December and currently carries about 1,700 cars a day.

Cranberry Crossroads. This office, retail and restaurant development



on the former Pittsburgh North campground adjacent to Cranberry Commons includes a new road, Fairport Drive, which will connect with 228 at its already-signalized intersection with Cranberry Woods Drive. Fairport Drive will also intersect a new extension of the service road – currently known as Cranberry Commons Drive – which parallels 228 in front of Cranberry Commons. It then continues north to Mars Road, which will also be improved and widened at some future point. New turning lanes will be added to 228 for traffic approaching the intersection from both directions, and one of the region's first triple-left turn lane provisions will be added to Cranberry Woods Drive on the opposite side of the highway. New westbound through lanes will also be added between Cranberry Woods Drive and I-79 to tie into PennDOT's I-79 ramp project.

The Flyunder. The idea for a road that crosses 228, connecting Cranberry Woods Drive and I-79 to the properties north of the highway, but without requiring its traffic to actually touch 228, has been under discussion for some time now. It is still in the concept stage, sometimes presented to PennDOT as a bridge over 228,

sometimes as an underpass beneath it. The resulting shorthand, "the 228 Flyunder," reflects the ambiguity of its current formulation. Either way, it would include a loop ramp linking Flyunder traffic with I-79 and a roundabout with Cranberry Woods Drive, near the Marriott Hotel.

I-79 Ramps. Right now, westbound drivers on 228 who want to get onto I-79 in either direction must first make a left turn across traffic to get to the Interstate's on-ramps. That same situation is mirrored on the other side of the bridge for eastbound traffic. While they're making those lefts, the thru traffic on 228 is held back waiting, resulting in a traffic tangle that PennDOT has recognized for years. But this year, it will be significantly improved with the construction of new ramps on the northern side of 228 linking it directly to the Interstate in all directions.

The result: more green time for thru traffic. To make room for that project, the portion of McElroy Road which now intersects 228 will be permanently closed once Fairport Drive is open and operational. As a result, no one on Mars Road will lose highway access at any time during the project. ~

Killer Trees: Make Nice To Local Trees, Or Else

Alfred Joyce Kilmer may have had a point when he penned *Trees*, the 1913 poem for which he is best known and loved. It begins: "I think that I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree."

Then again, he may not have been thinking about their roots penetrating sewer lines, clogging catch basins, heaving sidewalks, blocking driver's views, tearing down power lines, or damaging homes in storms. But Cranberry has.

In fact, the Township has enacted several ordinances related to the care and protection of street trees – the generic name given to any trees planted along curbs and sidewalks of local roads. The code's purpose is to preserve the many benefits – both practical and aesthetic – that a tree-lined street can bring to a community, while minimizing the potential harm trees can cause if they're poorly selected, badly placed, or inadequately maintained. That potential for damage varies from place to place.

In many communities, for example, stormy weather leads directly to utility outages as trees fall on top of wires, knocking out the electricity, phone, and cable services they carry. So to minimize the likelihood of damage, utility companies hire crews to go around cutting trees back. In Cranberry, however, overhead power lines are less of an issue since many

residential plans are served by underground wires.

Instead, there's a two-fold problem here. First, there's the underground attraction of tree roots to sewer lines. Over time, root penetration can cause buried pipelines to crack, clog, or collapse. On Township-owned lines, that's an issue for the Public Works department to handle.

Trees in need of street-side pruning are frequently responsible for damage to vehicles. Neglected tree branches can also impede pedestrian use of sidewalks.

The other issue is above ground. Trees in need of street-side pruning, whose branches encroach on vehicle traffic lanes, are frequently responsible for damage to service vehicles including shattered truck mirrors, broken beacon lights and scratched paint. Neglected tree branches can also impede pedestrian use of sidewalks. So can trees which have become diseased, damaged, infested or disfigured. Those are all matters for individual property owners to take care of.

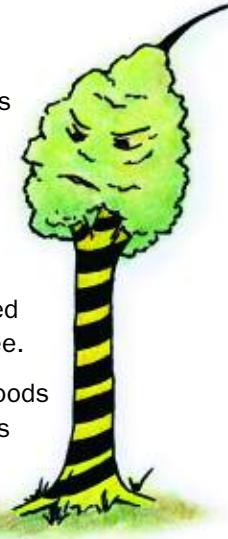
In some neighborhoods, particularly those built in the last ten years or so, the covenants of their homeowner associations place responsibility for maintaining trees on the owner of that property. So if a tree requires pruning, it's up to the homeowner to take care of it. And

if a street tree dies as a result of a collision or blight or malicious mischief, it becomes the homeowner's obligation to have it taken out and replaced with a comparable tree.

But not all neighborhoods have such stipulations in place, so in 2005, the Township enacted its own rules regarding tree care. First and foremost, the ordinance recognizes the value street trees can bring to a community. So it stipulates that trees be installed on both sides of the street for any new development in the Township.

Then it prohibits anyone from willfully harming those trees without Township approval. That includes, in addition to barring anyone from cutting them down: no contact with trees by toxic substances, no attaching signs to trees, no carving initials into tree bark, and no removing of any device set in place for the tree's protection. It also requires keeping the tree trimmed at least nine feet above the sidewalk and, on the traffic side, a minimum of eleven feet above road surface.

When they're properly maintained, trees serve as a welcome screen from traffic, curious neighbors, summer heat, and carbon dioxide. They help to raise property values while providing an attractive and environmentally beneficial asset. That's why, despite potential problems that trees can bring, Cranberry shares the spirit of poet Kilmer in taking steps to protect and extend its arbor canopy. ~



Oops. Trees provide an aesthetic asset for any community. But a certain amount of care and feeding is required to safeguard against potential problems. Cranberry has enacted several ordinances to accomplish that.



Cranberry Underground Exposed! What you don't see is what you get. During road construction and maintenance, portions of the costly but hidden network of pipelines, conduits, culverts and catch basins that whisk rainwater away from the roads, are uncovered for inspection, repair and reconstruction.

You can't always see where Cranberry Township spends money. That's because it has tens of millions of dollars buried underground. And so do a lot of other communities. But without those hidden investments, no community would have the opportunity to grow – or to keep its head above water – sometimes even literally.

Collectively, Cranberry's water distribution system, its sanitary sewer network and its grid of stormwater pipelines represent a massive outlay of cash on the community's underground infrastructure. The Township's water and sanitary systems alone have a combined value of more than \$33 million.

Each of those two networks includes more than 160 miles of underground pipelines and conduits. And they're growing – some at the expense of private developers, and some at public expense. Later this year, a new fresh water pump station will come online, supplying the Township with up to 4.5 million gallons of water a day. Its cost: \$2.8 million. And starting next year, a new main line for Cranberry's sanitary network – referred to as Interceptor One – will go into service, collecting the effluent from neighborhood pipelines as far south as the Allegheny County line, and carrying it

Cranberry's Underground Economy

north to the Brush Creek Plant for treatment. Its estimated price tag: up to \$5.5 million.

The replacement value for Township-owned portions of Cranberry's storm water system is currently unknown, although it's big. However it recently got a lot bigger. That's because, in an effort to reduce its own expenses, PennDOT determined that the storm sewers, catch basins, conduits and other rain water handling structures along state roads would now become the responsibility of any local jurisdiction they pass through. In Cranberry's case, that means Routes 19 and 228, Freedom Road, Rochester Road, Rowan Road, Franklin Road, Glen Eden Road, and Plains Church Road. Interstate highways, at least for the moment, are exempt.

Cranberry's own practice has been to pass any stormwater management costs that are associated with new development projects along to their project's owners. But over time, and with the repeated turnover of commercial properties, those private maintenance stipulations become harder to enforce.

Of course, storm-water management is nothing new to Cranberry. Particularly over the last decade, the Township made significant investments in its stormwater systems. But when it comes to flood control, no town is an island. Ten years ago, Cranberry adopted a comprehensive stormwater management program. Driven to a great extent by the changes in its topography that came with development, the plan had three goals. The first was to minimize flooding which endangered private property as well as public roads. The second was to reduce pollution from contaminated runoff. And the third was to bring the Township into compliance with the provisions of state Act 167, which

requires a comprehensive approach to stormwater management.

Rainwater, however, is notorious for disregarding municipal boundaries, so the actions or inactions of a community upstream can have a devastating impact on yours, regardless of how carefully you may have planned. As a

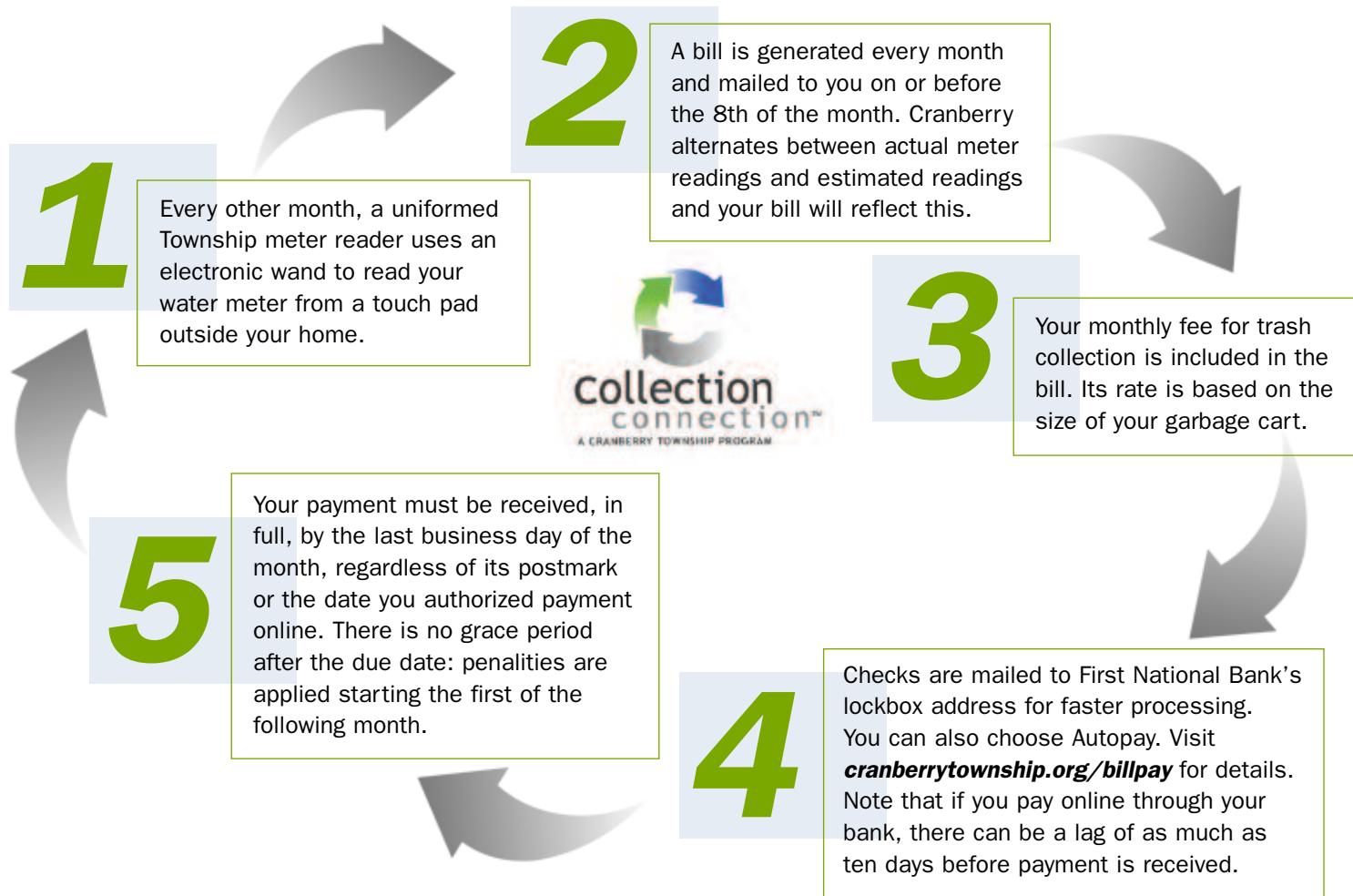
Rainwater is notorious for disregarding municipal boundaries. So in 2007, a cooperative plan extended the hydraulic computer models to include all of northern Allegheny County. Butler County went through that same process just last year.

result, Cranberry's protection against damaging floods is strongly affected by its neighbors, as well as by some more distant communities.

So in 2007, a cooperative plan involving members of the North Hills Council of Governments extended the hydraulic computer models developed for Cranberry to include all of northern Allegheny County. Its data led to a schedule of water release rates affecting development throughout the area, slowing the flow with detention ponds and other means to match the handling capacity of the drainage system. Butler County went through that same process just last year.

Yet it's an open-ended project. Finding ways to finance the maintenance, expansion and eventual replacement of Cranberry's stormwater system – and keeping up with the constantly growing body of regulations issued by the state's Department of Environmental Protection – will be among the host of challenges facing local governments here in the decades to come. ~

Cranberry's Water, Sewer and Trash Billing Cycle Explained



What happens if a bill isn't paid on time?

SECOND NOTICE

Your next bill will include the unpaid balance plus a 10% penalty, in addition to the amount due for current service.

PRIOR TO TERMINATION

If the bill has not been paid by the end of the second month, a pink termination notice is sent requesting payment by 5:00 PM on the day prior to service cutoff, usually about two weeks later. In the meantime, township staff will attempt to call the customer and arrange payment.

SERVICE SHUTOFF

If still unpaid by the scheduled shutoff date, a door tag announcing that service has been terminated is placed on the home or business. A \$50 reconnection fee is applied to restart service after cash payment has been received. If full payment is received before 3:00 PM on a business day, service will be restored that same day; after 3:00 PM, service will be restored the next business day.

Cranberry Township 2012 Water System Flushing Schedule

Cranberry Township's annual fire hydrant and distribution system flushing program gets underway on Monday, April 16. It is a routine maintenance operation designed to flush sediment from the water system, check fire hydrant operation, and test chlorine levels in the water lines throughout the Township. Flushing is conducted Monday through Friday between 7:00 AM and 4:00 PM. A week-by-week schedule is provided here; for detailed information on the date for your own street, call the Township's Customer Service Center at 724-776-4806.

Here are the water line areas to be flushed during the weeks beginning:

APRIL 16. Pennwood Place, McKinney Warehouse, Keystone Drive, Gateway Building, Commonwealth Drive, Residence Inn, Freedom Road from Commonwealth Drive to Route 19, Marriott, Knockout Development – Longtree Way & Garden View, Westinghouse, Cranberry Woods - MSA Complex, Cranberry Mall, Old Mars Road between Route 19 and McElroy Drive, UPMC Medical Center, Fairfield Inn, Norberry Court, Dutilh Road south of Route 228, Dutilh Road between Freeport Road and Cul-De-Sac at Turnpike, Candlewood Suites, Route 19 south of PA Turnpike to Bravo's Restaurant, Hyatt Hotel, Brush Creek Commons, Red Roof Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Marguerite Road, Emeryville Drive, Old Mars Road between McElroy Drive and Franklin Road, Cranberry Commons Mall, Grandshire, Spring Meadows, Franklin Road between Old Mars Road and Beacon Hill Drive, Hazelwood, St Killian's School.

APRIL 23. McElroy Road, Fox Run, Canterbury Heights - Buckingham Trail, Franklin Road, Peace Street, Franklin Ridge, Shadow Creek, Bristol Creek, Washington Farms, St Leonard's Woods, Timberline, Peters Road between Franklin Road and Old Farm Road, Redmond Place, Old Towne Apartments, Scenic Ridge, Peters Road between Franklin Road and Burke Road, Forest Knoll, Lakeview Estates, Windwood Heights, Crystal Springs, Walden Pond, Burke Road.

APRIL 30. Rowan Road between Marshall Road and Old Farm Road, La Grande Drive, Rowan School, Rowan Towers, Leonberg Road, Route 19 between Freedom Road and Rochester Road, Cranberry Shoppes, Wal-Mart,

Cranberry Square, Streets of Cranberry, Doyle Equipment, Ogle Station, Boston Market, Jerry's Car Wash, Home Depot, Smith Drive, Walgreens, Route 19 from Butler Auto Auction north to Kenny Ross, Victory Family Church, Penn Detroit, YMCA, Route 19 from Butler Auto Auction south to former Northland Lincoln Mercury. Wiegand Drive, Route 19 from Smith Drive north to Goehring Rd, Goehring Road from Route 19 to Marshall Road, Wisconsin Avenue, Ogle View Road, TRACO, Progress Avenue, Park Road, Ernie Mashuda Drive, Marshall Road, Geohring Road, Preserve East and West, North Boundary Road, Marshall Woods, Marshall Heights, Pinebrook Manor, Cranberry Water Park.

MAY 7. Pinehurst Estates, Ehrman Road, Grace Estates, Garvin Road, Mystic Ridge, Foxmoor, Ehrman Farms, Oakview Estates, Unionville Road, Springfield Manor, Cranberry Business Park, Winchester Lakes, Winchester Farms, Old Route 19, Settlers Grove Phase 1 & 2, Glen Eden Road, Glen Eden Phase 1, Settlers Grove 3, Antler Ridge.

MAY 14. The Maples, Cedarbrook, Glen Eden Phase 2, Glenbrook, Glen Eden Townhouses, Manor Creek, Freshcorn Road, Glen Eden Road west of Powell Road, Briar Creek, Cranberry Heights I & II, Kingsbrook, Madison Heights, Glen Rape Road, Wakefield Estates.

MAY 21. Rochester Road from Route 19 to Robinhood Drive, Thompson Park Drive, Executive Drive, Costco, Brandt Drive, Commerce Park Drive, Cranberry Corporate Center, Hampton Inn, Laurelwood, Sherwood Oaks, Fernway.



MAY 29. Freedom Road from Commonwealth Drive to Thorn Hill Road (RIDC), WESCO, Rolling Road Regency Apartments, Iron Mountain, Freedom Road, Freedom Square, Freedom Road Car Wash, Haine Fire Hall, Freedom Road from Georgetown Square to Parkwood Drive, Parkside Place, Carriage Drive, Kira Circle, Haine School Road, Haine School, Pine Ridge, Rochester Road from Robinhood Drive to Alps Avenue, Bellevue Park, Graham Park, Valleybrook, Deer Run, Sun Valley, Cranbrook, Kirkwood Drive.

JUNE 4. Woodlands Townhouses, Swift Homes, Woodlands Houses, Clearbrook, Cranberry Estates, Ashford Manor, Cranberry Pointe, Cranberry West, Rochester Road from Haine School Road to Powell Road, Kimberwicke, Harvest Drive, Holiday Drive, Powell Road from Rochester Road to Blue Ridge Drive, Orchard Park, Creekwood Commons, Creekwood, Freedom Woods.

JUNE 11. Forest Park, The Crossings, Mystic Pine Trail, Blue Ridge Estates, Berkley Manor, Hampshire Woods, Autumn Hill.

JUNE 18. Powell Road between Rochester Road and Glen Eden Road, Park Place, Chatham Commons Highland Village, Havenwood, Hunters Creek, Stonefield & Farmview, Greenfield Estates, Avery's Field, Woodbine Estates.

Seneca Valley School District 2012-2013 Teacher/Student Calendar



August 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	IS	IS	25
26	IS	FD	29	30	31	

Aug. 28 - First Student Day
7 Staff Days; 4 Student Days

September 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	H	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

19 Days

October 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
7	IS	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

23 Staff Days; 22 Student Days

November 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	IS	10
11	A80	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	H	H	H	24
25	H	27	28	29	30	

18 Staff Days; 17 Student Days

December 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	H	H	H	H	H	29
30	H					

15 Days

January 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			H	H	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	A80	IS	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

21 Staff Days; 20 Student Days

Jan. 21 - End of First Semester

February 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	SM	16
17	A80	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

19 Days

March 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	A80	9
10	SM	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	SM	H	30
31						

18 Days

April 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			H	H	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

20 Days

May 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	SM	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	A80	25
26	H	28	29	30	LD-S	

21 Days

May 31 - Last Day for Seniors (Grad. Day)

June 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	LD	8
9	IS	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

June 7 - Last Day for K-11 Students

June 10 - IS (and Last) Day for Teachers

6 Staff Days; 5 Student Days

187 Work Days for Teachers

Snow (Emergency) Makeup Days:

#1 - Feb. 15, 2013

#2 - March 11, 2013

#3 - March 28, 2013

#4 - May 10, 2013

District Local Holidays:

Nov. 23, 2012

Dec. 24, 2012

Dec. 26, 2012

March 29, 2013

April 1, 2013

KEY

A80 - Act 80-Prof. Develop. Day (No school for students)

H - Holiday (No school)

IS - In-Service Day (No school for students)

FD, LD & LD-S - First & Last Student Days (Aug. 28 & June 7 for K-11), and Last Day/Grad. Day for Seniors (May 31)

SM - Snow Makeup Day (this day becomes a holiday if no snow makeup days are needed)

* All dates are subject to change and
adjustments will be made as necessary.



CRANBERRY

TOWNSHIP

724-776-4806

www.cranberrytownship.org

2525 Rochester Rd, Ste. 400, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

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